

REMARKS

In the Office Action of December 13, 2007, the Examiner objected to the drawings as not showing the linkage and pinion for inducing axial rotation. By this amendment, claims 8 and 10, the claims reciting this subject matter, have been canceled.

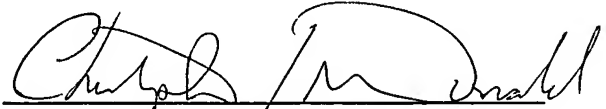
The Examiner rejected claims 7-10 as being unpatentable over U.S. 5,116,016 (Nagata) in view of U.S. 1,856,534 (Boery), U.S. 2,936,652 (Gunzner) or U.S. 3,974,712 (Kaufman et al.). The Examiner stated that Nagata disclosed the invention as claimed except for mating helical surfaces for regulating the load of a spring. The Examiner relied upon any of the secondary references for disclosing engaging helical surfaces between a pair of rotating elements and found it would have been obvious to use this feature with the device of Nagata. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Boery discloses a clutch blocking system having a cam disk 13 which is turned to clamp or unclamp a seat bottom and seat back. Kaufman discloses the use of cam surfaces to cause rotation of a hub 6b. The hub applies a compressive force on the cable sheath 7d to cause the brake shoes to be applied to the rim of a bicycle wheel. Gunzner discloses cam surface 40 and 32a so that rotation of handle 30 causes the upward movement of plunger shaft 24 and removal of the plunger member 14 from bushing 16.

None of the secondary references applied by the Examiner disclose or suggest the use of mating helical surfaces to adjust the tension in a spring. Each of the applications of mating helical surfaces in the secondary references are directed to other structures unrelated to adjusting tension in a spring. One of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated by the teachings of the secondary references to combine them with the disclosure of Nagata as they have nothing in common.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. A three month extension of time accompanies this response. If any additional fees are due and owing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christopher J. McDonald', is written over a horizontal line.

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